LISTING OF CLAIMS

1.   (Cancelled)

2.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 32 wherein the step of determining by said processor for said program to be buffered is a predictive process, based on a frequency measurement of previously watched programs.

3.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32 wherein the step of determining said one program of interest is a predictive process based on specific programs watched.

4.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32 wherein the step of determining said one program of interest is a predictive process based on the genre of programs watched.

5.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32 wherein the step of determining said one program of interest is a predictive process based on the recommendations of other users of the system.

6.   (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein the recommendations of other users are extracted from Web Log entries.

7.   (Previously Presented)The method of claim 5 wherein the recommendations of other users are extracted by the processor from one or more messages from an instant messaging service.

8.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5 wherein the recommendations of other users are extracted by the processor from on-line reviews.

9.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5 wherein the recommendations of other users are extracted by the processor from one or more email messages.

10.   (Cancelled).

11.   (Currently Amended) In a system for distributing content to users over channels, said system including a microprocessor and a buffer for selectively storing content ~~shown on a channel,~~ a method for buffering ~~in a media presentation device~~, the method comprising the steps of:

    determining by the microprocessor, that at least ~~one channel of~~ content of interest to ~~a user~~ at least one of said users is within a ~~previous~~ predetermined time slot~~, wherein said channel has not been preselected by the user for recording for said previous time slot~~;

buffering in a buffer a portion of <u>said content</u> a program on said channel

during a corresponding later time slot for a first time period, said first time period

being shorter than the duration of said time slot <u>content</u>;

detecting, by said processor, if a user starts watching said channel

<u>content</u> on said presentation device within said first time period;

_____stopping the buffering of the program if a user does not start <u>watching</u> said

channel within said first time period; and

_____flushing said buffer after the buffering is stopped.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11 wherein the step of

determining <u>that said content is available is performed on</u> said one <u>a</u> channel is

based on a list of channels most recently viewed by the user.

13. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the step of determining said

one channel is a predictive process based on a frequency measure of channels

watched within the same timeslot of a previous day.

14. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the step of determining said

channel is a predictive process based on a frequency measure of channels

watched within the same time slot of a previous week.

15.   (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the step of determining said channel is a predictive process based on the genre of channels being watched and previously watched.

16.   (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the step of determining said channel is a predictive process based on recommendations.

17.   (Cancelled)

18.   (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the buffering of the portion of a program on said channel continues until a channel of higher interest is found, after which the buffering commences of a portion of a program on said channel of higher interest.

19.   Cancelled

20.   Cancelled

21.   Cancelled

22.   Cancelled

23.   Cancelled

24.   Cancelled

25.   Cancelled.

26.   Cancelled

27.   cancelled

28.   Cancelled.

29 Cancelled.

30 cancelled

31 Cancelled

32 (CURRENTLY AMENDED). In a ~~content distribution system~~ player in which programs are provided to various users, a method of time shifting a program comprising:

using a processor to determine if at least one program being distributed in the system is of interest to a user, said program having a starting point;

starting to buffer said one program from its starting point if said processor determines that said program is of interest to at least one of ~~a~~ the user<u>s</u>;

~~monitoring a program presenting apparatus with~~ receiving a command from one of said processor to determine if the user starts watching said one program after said buffering has started; ~~and~~

~~causing said program presenting apparatus to show~~ presenting said program from its starting point, automatically by said processor, in response to said command ~~if it is determined that the user has started watching the program after said buffering has started~~;

stopping said buffering if said command is not received within a predetermined time period; and

automatically erasing the portion of said program that has been buffered..

33 (Cancelled).

34 (Cancelled).

35 (Previously Presented). The method of claim 11 wherein said timeslot is selected from a grid defining programs over an extended time period on different channels.

36 (Previously Presented). The method of claim 35 wherein said grid is a weekly grid and said timeslot defines a program distributed at a particular day, time and channel.

37 Cancelled.

38 Cancelled

39 (Previously Presented). The method of claim 37 wherein said program is buffered for a predetermined duration.

40 (Previously Presented). The method of claim 39 wherein said program has a program duration and said predetermined duration is shorter than said program duration.

41 Cancelled.

42 Cancelled.

43 Cancelled

44 Cancelled

45 (Cancelled).

46 (Cancelled).

47 Cancelled.